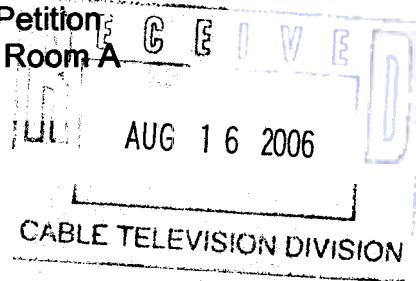


Mass DTE's Cable Division Public Hearing on Verizon Petition
August 16, 2006 10:00 am One South Station Hearing Room A



Donald W Beaulieu
Selectmen, Town of Salisbury

We in Salisbury as in most communities in the Commonwealth welcome increased competition for cable services for our constituents. With that said the current and long standing process for licensing has worked well for consumers, cable providers and the cities and towns of the Commonwealth.

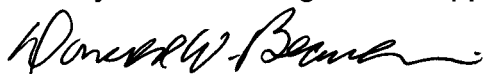
The petition by Verizon before you today seeks to turn the licensing process into a bonanza for Verizon at the expense of the consumer, as I believe it will reduce the amount of public access and PEG programming that the cities and towns of this Commonwealth currently negotiate into there licensing agreements.

Most communities like my own negotiate these agreements with volunteers who work days and put in time at night and weekends to work out these agreements. To compress this process to 90 days all but assures that the majority of the towns in the Commonwealth will have a license agreement shoved down there throats. I don't believe that it would take any community 17 months to act on Verizon or any other Cable providers application. The initial processed has been completed I would guess in every community in the Commonwealth has a cable provider agreement and would most likely be the bases for any additional competition that might come to town.

What justification for changing the process has Verizon provided you, that would override your duty to protect the interest of the citizens of this Commonwealth? I've heard or read of none. It does not appear that this petition was filed because of application that have been languishing in some city or town for approval but instead a move by a giant in the industry to speed up the process for there benefit.

I ask you to reject this proposal and allow us as community leaders to focus our efforts on fighting this issue at the national level where Verizon has requested the ability to cut even you out of the equation.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak on this issue.


Donald W. Beaulieu, Selectmen
5 Beach Road
Salisbury, MA 01952